

***Charter Township
Of Kalamazoo***



**2013 Annual
Fire Department Report**

1720 Riverview Drive, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49004 (269) 381-8080



The Year in Review

By Chief Dave Obreiter

We proudly submit this 2013 annual report for the Township of Kalamazoo Fire Department. As I reflect on 2013, I am filled with great appreciation for the men and women that make up our team and for all that they continue to do for our department and community.

As we neared the end of 2013, it looked like we were going to finish with yet another annual response record for the department. Fortunately, responses slowed and we ended the year with 14 responses less than 2012, which is currently the busiest year in the history of the department.

We continue to actively participate in several collaborative efforts and organizations such as Kalamazoo County Fire Chiefs, Western Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs, Kalamazoo County Hazardous Materials Response Team and Kalamazoo County Fire Investigation Response Team. This concept allows for the sharing of information, ideas and resources between departments and communities to reduce the cost of providing emergency services, while still providing a quality and reliable response to the needs of our citizens.

Each Township of Kalamazoo Fire Station has an association that is made up of all of its members, along with many retirees and honorary members. These associations are an integral and ever important part of the representation of our department in the community. Thru monthly voluntary donations from the members, numerous Little League Baseball teams, AYSO Soccer teams and fire prevention and safety programs are planned, funded and executed.

Community involvement remains a high priority with our fire department members, as witnessed by our member's voluntary participation supporting larger events such as the Westwood Ice Cream Social, the Greater Kalamazoo Holiday Food Drive and the Great Lakes Burn Camp. The voluntary participation by our members is a direct reflection of their desire to serve our community above and beyond their roles as an emergency responder.

In the appendix section of this report, you will find a roster of our personnel as well as the years of service and experience that they provide. In addition to the list of personnel, you will find a listing of awards that were presented to our members in 2013 thru our Firefighter Recognition Program. The list of awards recognizes the actions above and beyond the general actions expected of our personnel. Please join me in congratulating our recipients of these awards as well as the dedication to serve our community by all of our personnel.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Year in Review	2
Table of Contents	3
Fire Department Program Descriptions	5
Fire Department Management	5
Emergency Response	5
Fire Prevention and Investigation	6
Fire Training	6
Fire Department Maintenance	7
Fire Commissioner.....	7
Emergency Response Analysis	8
Calls by Station	8
Assists between Stations and Time of Calls.....	9
Ten Year Comparison	10
Types of Calls	11
Initial Aid Summary	12
Mutual Aid Summary	13
Fire Loss Summary	14
Fire Department Apparatus and Facilities	15
Station 1(Northwood)	15
Station 2 (Eastwood)	17
Station 3 (Lakewood)	19
Station 4 (Westwood)	20
Apparatus Fleet Status	22
Equipment Inspection Testing and Maintenance	23
Capital Purchases	24
Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement	25
Training	27



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Assistance to Firefighter’s Grant.....	28
Inter-Governmental Cooperation.....	29
Kalamazoo County Hazardous Materials Response Team	29
Kalamazoo County Fire Investigator Response Team	29
Appendix.....	30
Years of Service	30
Organizational Chart	31
Fire Department Awards	32



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Fire Department Program Descriptions

The fire department is managed by categorizing certain aspects of its operation into sections and assigning a point of contact that is responsible for the management of that section. All personnel assigned a section of responsibility coordinate the management of that program with the fire chief. Each section is identified below along with a description of its area of responsibility.

Fire Department Management – The Fire Department Management section is made up of our six full-time fire department personnel and consists of the fire chief, deputy fire chief, two battalion chiefs, fire marshal and fire department maintenance supervisor.

The management section is responsible for the annual budgeting of programs and resources by setting program priorities, department goals and the coordination of constructive efforts between the fire department management section and all fire department personnel.

Emergency Response – The Fire Department Emergency Response section is managed by our Fire Department Management team and is responsible for maintaining a cost effective, reliable and diverse quick-response network of trained personnel and strategically placed fire department vehicles and equipment. The Township of Kalamazoo Fire Department responds to all calls for service such as medical and fire emergencies, as well as non-emergency calls for service such as arcing electrical wires and carbon monoxide alarm activations. The Township of Kalamazoo maintains four fire stations (Northwood, Eastwood, Lakewood and Westwood) and staffs all stations with the exception of Lakewood with a minimum of one firefighter/driver twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Emergency response to the Lakewood neighborhood is provided under written agreement by the Comstock Township Fire Department, which operates and responds in the same manner as the Township of Kalamazoo Fire Department.

The Township of Kalamazoo Fire Department relies heavily on paid on-call personnel for response to all calls for service. In 2013, we averaged about sixty paid on-call personnel on the roster. The paid on-call personnel are assigned to one of the staffed stations and follow a geographically assigned area for response purposes. The paid on-call roster includes assigned duties to selected individuals that appoint them as officers, which is an essential function of personnel management and emergency scene command and control. This concept of paid on-call firefighters has proven to be a cost effective way to utilize only the necessary amount of personnel to handle the type and nature of emergency. The paid on-call personnel receive Township Board approved hourly pay rates only for the emergency responses, scheduled



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Fire Department Program Descriptions (continued)

on-call time covering one of the staffed stations (fire apparatus driver), scheduled fire department training and special activities such as station maintenance that they attend.

Fire Prevention and Investigation – The Fire Prevention and Investigation section is managed by our State of Michigan certified full-time fire marshal. The fire marshal is responsible for coordinating all fire prevention activities in the Township of Kalamazoo, as well as coordinating all necessary fire investigations with the Township of Kalamazoo Police Department.

Our Fire Prevention and Investigation program includes new and existing facility fire safety inspections, public safety education programs, construction plan reviews, management of our Knox brand secure key access program for all non-residential facilities, fire ordinance compliance and the tracking and updating of hazardous materials used by facilities operating in the Township of Kalamazoo.

Our Fire Marshal is also an active participant with the Juvenile Fire Setter Program and Fire Investigation Response Team, both programs organized as a collaborative effort thru the Kalamazoo County Fire Chief's Association.

Fire Department Training – Our Fire Department Training section is managed by our assigned department training officer as an additional duty. The training officer is responsible for the planning, scheduling, documentation and coordination of the delivery of our fire department training program to all fire department members.

Our training program is designed to train and maintain a competent roster of emergency responders. Our training program covers a wide range of subjects relating to firefighting, medical emergencies, rescue, hazardous materials, firefighter safety and other response related topics. Our training schedule is driven by State of Michigan requirements, as well as local response needs and hazards.

All of our personnel are required to obtain and maintain as a condition of employment, State of Michigan certification as a Medical First Responder and Firefighter I/II. All personnel are also required to maintain a current cardio pulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator certification from a nationally recognized organization.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Fire Department Program Descriptions (continued)

Fire Department Maintenance – Our Fire Department Maintenance section is managed by our Emergency Vehicle Technician certified full-time fire department maintenance supervisor. Our fire department maintenance supervisor is responsible for the inspection, maintenance, testing and documentation of our fire department vehicle fleet and assigned equipment, as well as general grounds maintenance at our fire stations.

Our fire department maintenance program is designed to maintain our assets in a ready and reliable configuration while minimizing the maintenance down time of our equipment. Our maintenance supervisor develops and executes a detailed annual proactive preventative maintenance and inspection schedule in an attempt to minimize the costly reactive maintenance mindset. Our maintenance program also ensures that all required third party safety inspections of our vehicles are scheduled and documented. As an associated tasking to the vehicle preventative maintenance program, our maintenance supervisor makes repairs to our vehicles in-house when possible, reducing the down time of the vehicles, as well as reducing our overall maintenance budget by reducing costs associated with contracted maintenance.

In addition to vehicle maintenance, our maintenance supervisor also manages the inspection, maintenance and documentation of our powered equipment such as saws, generators and vehicle mounted equipment.

As an additional duty, our maintenance supervisor is responsible for larger exterior maintenance projects at our fire stations such as snow plowing and parking lot maintenance.

Fire Commissioner –The Fire Commissioner is a Township Board Member that is appointed by the Township Board.

The Fire Commissioner acts as a liaison between the Township Board and the fire chief in regards to fire department operations, response and budgeting.

Township Trustee Donald Martin remained the Fire Commissioner for 2013.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Emergency Response Analysis

In 2013, the Department responded to a total of 1,667 incidents. 1,216 being rescue related, and 451 being fire related.

Calls by Station

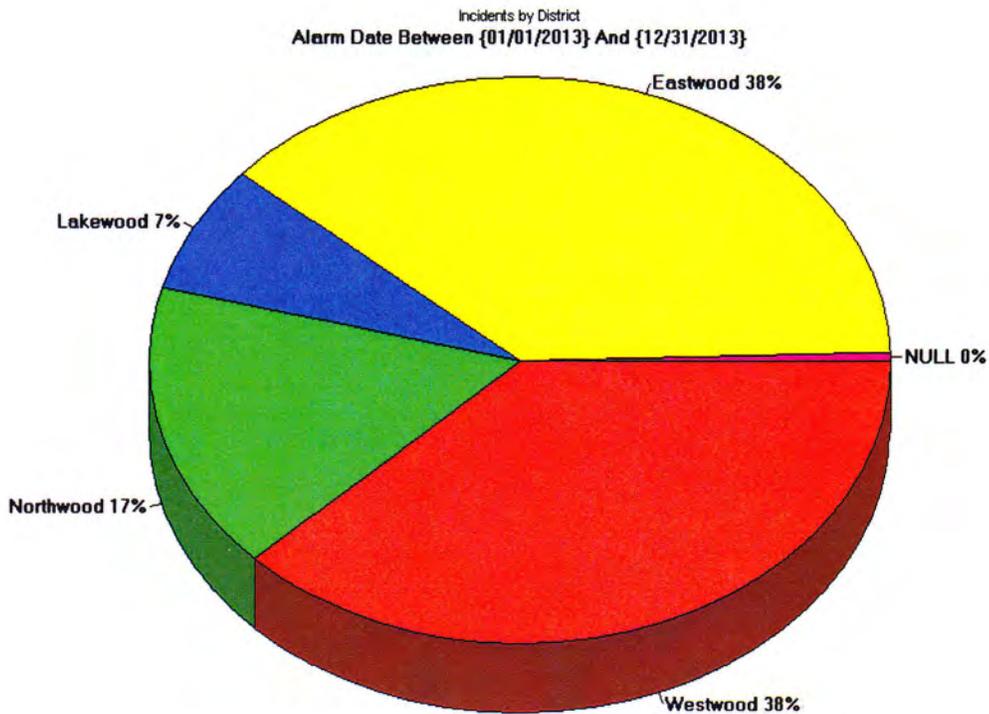
Station # 1= 353 / 275

Station # 3=115 / 115

Station # 2= 686 / 655

Station # 4= 648 / 625

With Assists / Without Assists





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Emergency Response Analysis (continued)

Northwood

responding to:

Eastwood = 36
 Westwood = 41
 Lakewood = 1

Eastwood

responding to:

Northwood = 12
 Westwood = 1
 Lakewood = 18

Westwood

responding to:

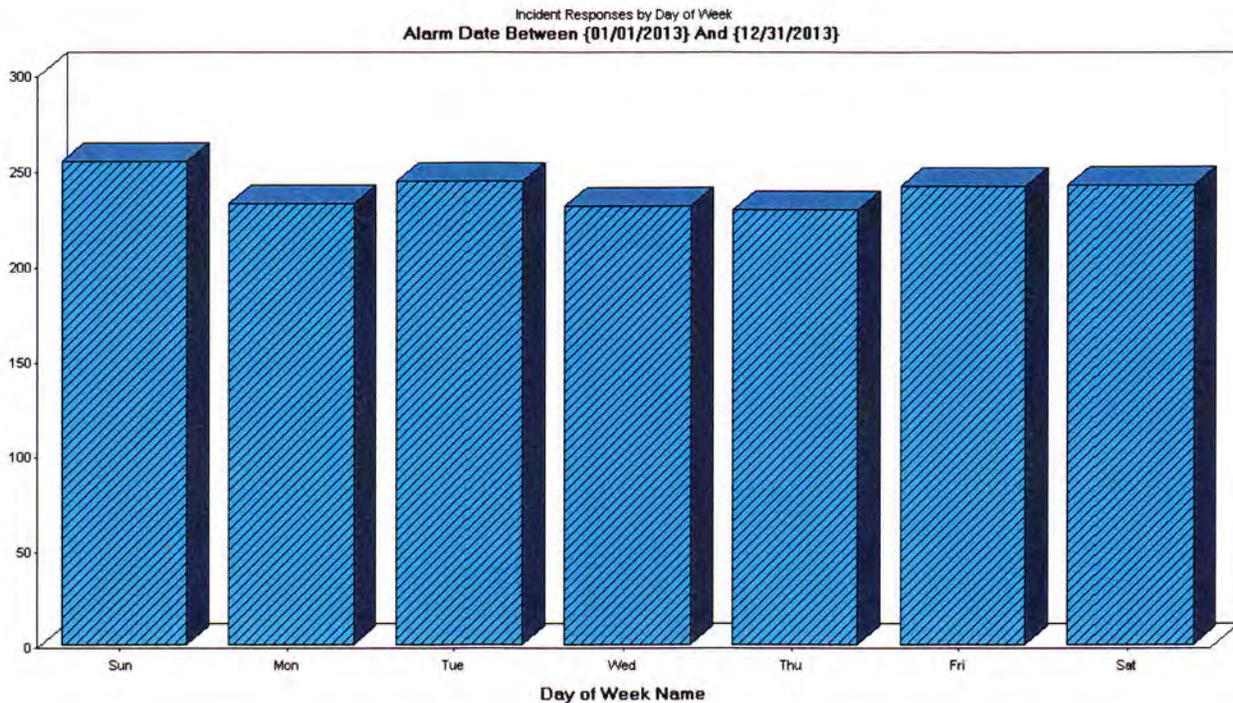
Northwood = 23
 Eastwood = 0
 Lakewood = 0

Day of Week

Monday = 232
 Tuesday = 244
 Wednesday = 227
 Thursday = 227
 Friday = 241
 Saturday = 242
 Sunday = 254

Time of Day

00:01 – 04:00 = 162
 04:01 – 08:00 = 158
 08:01 – 12:00 = 294
 12:01 – 16:00 = 373
 16:01 – 20:00 = 373
 20:01 – 24:00 = 307





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Emergency Response Analysis (continued)

In the past 10 years, demands for service of the fire department have been increasing on average, with 2012 being the most active year for fire related calls ever for the fire department.

	Calls for Service	Fire Related	Rescue Related	Assists Between Stations	Mutual Aid Given
2003	1,437	403	1,034	182	190
2004	1,541	391	1,150	252	116
2005	1,522	422	1,100	254	92
2006	1,392	373	1,019	173	108
2007	1,539	450	1,089	197	101
2008	1,582	397	1,185	163	110
2009	1,517	410	1,107	192	125
2010	1,504	339	1,165	151	112
2011	1,494	351	1,143	173	103
2012	1,681	444	1,237	151	126
2013	1,667	451	1,216	132	133

	Total FF Responses	Average Cost Per Call	Average FF's per call
2003	10,914	\$112.93	7.6
2004	12,419	\$121.28	8.0
2005	12,129	\$122.13	7.9
2006	10,893	\$123.79	7.8
2007	12,510	\$132.43	8.1
2008	13,328	\$141.46	8.4
2009	12,008	\$137.07	7.9
2010	10,540	\$121.45	7.0
2011	9,513	\$111.04	6.4
2012	10,402	\$107.57	6.2
2013	10,494	\$109.31	6.3



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Emergency Response Analysis (continued)

The following is a breakdown of the calls by type and frequency for 2013.

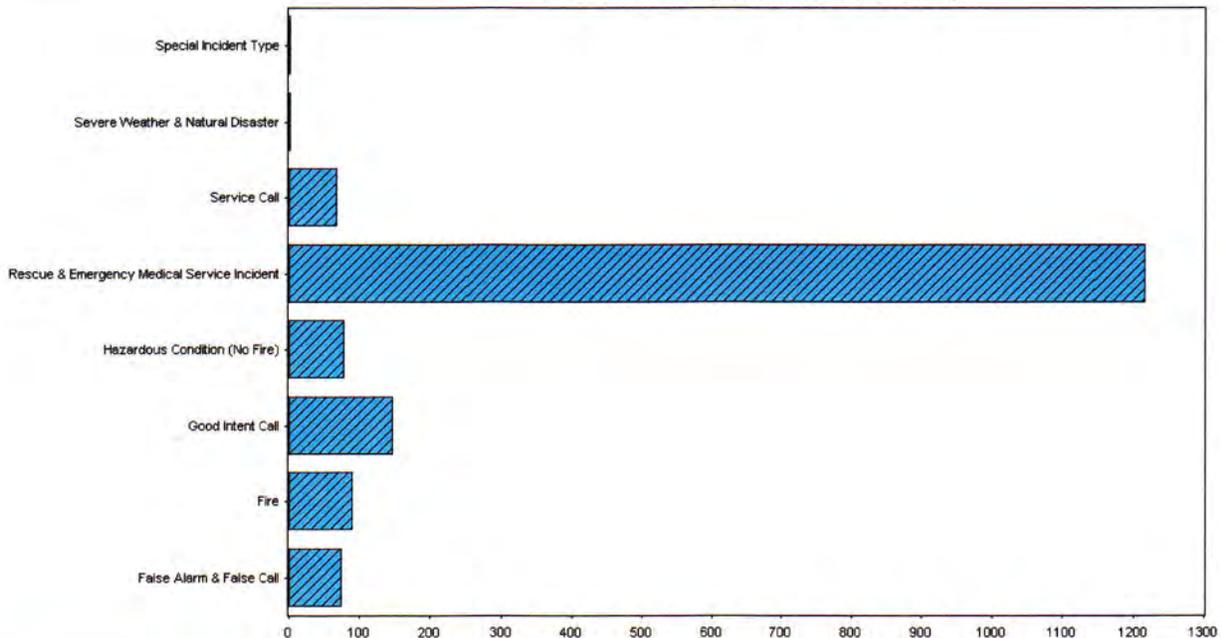
Rescues

Abdominal Pain = 29	Allergic Reaction = 9	Altered Mental Status = 6
Animal Bite = 3	Assault = 9	Assist Police = 6
Attempt Suicide = 3	Back Pain = 7	Cancelled en Route = 33
Carbon Monoxide Call = 5	Cardiac Arrest = 13	Chest Pain = 149
Choking = 6	Diabetic Problems = 66	EMS Alarm = 37
Fall = 88	Head Injury/Pain = 6	Ingestion/Poisoning = 32
Laceration/Hemorrhage = 35	Lift Assist = 14	Person Down = 100
Personal Injury Accident = 77	Pregnancy/OB = 10	Psychiatric Problems = 15
Seizure = 80	Sick Person = 52	Stab/Gunshot = 4
Stroke = 37	Trouble Breathing = 281	Unconscious = 85
Unknown Medical = 6		

Fires

Assist Other Fire = 136	Burning Complaint = 47	Dumpster Fire = 9
Fire Alarm = 46	Gas Leak = 18	Grass/Brush Fire = 4
Smoke Investigation = 22	Structure Fire = 26	Vehicle Fire = 7
Wind Damage = 1	Wires Down/Arcing = 48	

Incident Type Summary
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Initial Aid Summary

The Township of Kalamazoo has active Initial Aid agreements with Comstock Township, The City of Kalamazoo and Oshtemo Township to provide residents with higher levels of service than each municipality could provide on their own. These levels of service are provided automatically with the receipt of the alarm to provide for immediate response in conjunction with these other agencies as follows:

Comstock Township responds to all emergency calls in the Lakewood area and provides an Engine on all calls of Smoke, Fire, or Smell of Gas inside of a structure in the Eastwood district. In return, Kalamazoo Township provides a ladder truck for Comstock's commercial and multi-story structures.



The City of Kalamazoo provides a Ladder Truck to Kalamazoo Township when there is Smoke, Fire, or Smell of Gas inside of a multi-story residential, or high-hazard commercial structure. In return Kalamazoo Township provides an Engine for the Northwest section of the City of Kalamazoo, a ladder truck to certain structures in the Northeast corner of the City of Kalamazoo, and an Engine to cover City Station 45 on all second alarm fires in the City of Kalamazoo.

Oshtemo Township provides an Engine on all calls of Smoke, Fire, or Smell of Gas inside of a structure in the Westwood district. In return, Kalamazoo Township provides an Engine for the same calls in the Northeast section of Oshtemo's district.





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Mutual Aid Summary

The Township of Kalamazoo also has mutual aid agreements with all municipalities in Kalamazoo County to provide assistance when requested, and in return those municipalities will provide assistance to the Township of Kalamazoo when requested. These requests are not automatic with the receipt of the alarm like Initial Aid; however, these requests can be made at any point during the response to an incident, or while at an incident scene.

The following table is a combined list of Initial Aid and Mutual Aid responses between the Township of Kalamazoo, and other municipalities. The Township gave aid a total of 134 times, and received aid 180 times as outlined below:

	Oshtemo		Comstock		KDPS		Cooper		Parchment	
	Given	Received	Given	Received	Given	Received	Given	Received	Given	Received
January	2	1	4	8	5	0	2	0	1	0
February	3	0	8	7	0	1	1	0	0	0
March	1	1	7	12	5	0	2	0	2	0
April	3	3	6	13	1	4	2	0	0	0
May	2	2	3	7	0	4	0	0	1	0
June	1	0	2	12	0	0	0	0	2	0
July	3	1	7	14	0	2	1	0	0	0
August	1	2	6	18	1	1	0	0	0	0
September	5	2	4	10	1	1	0	0	4	0
October	1	1	7	12	2	1	0	0	1	0
November	4	0	7	6	4	0	1	0	0	0
December	2	3	2	24	0	4	1	1	2	0
Totals	28	16	63	143	19	18	10	1	13	0

*In addition to the above chart, the Township of Kalamazoo received Mutual Aid once from Texas Township for SCBA refilling while on scene of a fire and from Portage Department of Public Safety for response of their Confined Space Rescue team to assist the Township of Kalamazoo at a rescue scene.

**Kalamazoo Township Fire Department also provided personnel to the Kalamazoo County Hazardous Materials Team once this year to assist the Kalamazoo Valley Enforcement Team with an unknown clandestine lab.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Fire Loss Summary

There were 25 responses in 2013 with an associated loss caused by smoke and/or fire damage. Those 25 “loss fires” totaled \$285,140 in lost property and contents, and are listed individually below:

Incident #	Date	Location	Fire Type	Est. Property Loss	Est. Content Loss	Total Est. Loss
314	3/23/13	1313 Pinehurst	Electrical Fire	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ 50
344	3/26/13	2220 Gull Rd P-7	Cooking Fire	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
381	3/28/13	3800 Gull Rd	Commercial Equipment Fire	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
415	4/12/13	318 Chicago	Cooking Fire	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 4,000
427	4/6/13	2220 Gull Rd A-6	Cooking Fire	\$ 800	\$ 150	\$ 950
475	4/19/13	4255 Leisure Ln K-812	Cooking Fire	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 40
484	4/24/13	3228 W Main #303	Cooking Fire	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
502	5/2/13	2220 Barney Rd	RV Fire	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000
557	5/2/13	1912 Colgrove #106	Cooking Fire	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ 450
561	5/3/13	3316 Brookfield	Structure Fire	\$ 10,000	\$ 100	\$ 10,100
602	5/24/13	201 Lake Forest	Structure Fire	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ 6,000
627	5/8/13	1925 Elkerton #208	Cooking Fire	\$ 3,000	\$ 500	\$ 3,500
712	6/17/13	3915 Hilt	Dryer Fire	\$ -	\$ 25	\$ 25
848	7/27/13	1515 Highland Hills	Water Heater Fire	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
949	8/11/13	1928 Gull Rd	Dumpster Fire w/ Exposure	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000
1060	8/31/13	3426 Parkside #2	Kitchen Fire	\$ 5,000		\$ 5,000
1098	9/5/13	3502 Mulhearn	Structure Fire	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 22,500
1227	10/8/13	2432 N Drake	Car Fire	\$ 3,200	\$ -	\$ 3,200
1543	12/11/13	214 Locharren	Structure Fire	\$ 107,600	\$ 49,600	\$ 157,200
1546	12/8/13	2605 Douglas #10	Furnace Fire	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250
1564	12/13/13	1821 Alamo	Car Fire	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 2,500
1574	12/11/13	320 Darling	Structure Fire	\$ 25,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 32,500
1586	12/25/13	1357 Manor	Structure Fire	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 6,000
1645	12/26/13	2028 Colgrove #203	Cooking Fire	\$ -	\$ 575	\$ 575
1665	12/31/13	3426 Nichols	Electrical Fire	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200

*Property loss is generally considered loss to the structure or vehicle itself, while the content loss is the personal property contained within the structure or vehicle.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 1

Northwood Fire Station

2617 North Burdick Street

Built in 1948

Houses Engine 811, Engine 821 and Rescue/Brush Truck 851





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 1 (continued)



811

2011 Pierce Contender
1500 Gallon per minute pump
1000 Gallons of water
On board foam system with 30 gallons of
foam concentrate
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies

821

1988 Spartan Quality
1250 Gallon per minute pump
750 Gallons of water
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies



851

2008 Ford F-350
150 Gallon per minute pump
200 Gallons of water
Assorted nozzles and tools for brush fires
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 2

Eastwood Fire Station

2703 East Main Street

Built in 1940

Houses Engine 812, Ladder 842 and Rescue 852





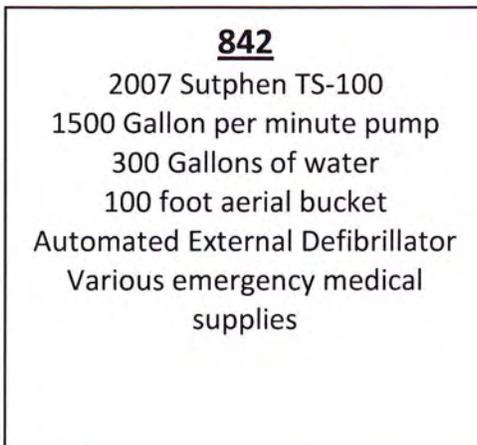
2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 2 (continued)



812

2007 Sutphen Shield
1500 Gallon per minute pump
1000 Gallons of water
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies



842

2007 Sutphen TS-100
1500 Gallon per minute pump
300 Gallons of water
100 foot aerial bucket
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies



852

2007 Ford Expedition EL
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 3

Lakewood Fire Station
3100 Lake Street
Built in 1950, Residence in 1967
Houses Engine 813



813

1988 Spartan Quality
1250 Gallon per minute pump
750 Gallons of water
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 4

Westwood Fire Station

1310 Nichols Road

Built in 1967

Houses Engine 814, Ladder 844, and Rescue 854





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Station 4 (continued)

814

1998 Pierce Quantum
1500 Gallon per minute pump
880 Gallons of water
Full complement of extrication tools
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies



844

2009 Sutphen TS-100
1500 Gallon per minute pump
300 Gallons of water
100 foot aerial bucket
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies

854

2007 Ford Expedition EL
Automated External Defibrillator
Various emergency medical supplies





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Apparatus Fleet Status

While the average age of our fleet is seven and a half years, we do have some vehicles which are approaching their replacement dates. We use a replacement date in line with current industry standards in order to plan for vehicle purchases and budget capital improvement funds more efficiently. These replacement dates are used to get the most value out of each piece of apparatus, while also replacing them frequently enough to allow for safety and technological improvements to enhance the services we deliver.

- Rescues are replaced approximately every 12 years.
- Engines are replaced approximately every 25 years.
- Ladders are replaced approximately every 30 years.

The table below shows the current timeline of each vehicle, as well as necessary special equipment that must be factored into apparatus purchasing/replacement decisions in order to maintain our current level of service.

Unit	Type	Year	Age	Assigned Station	Projected Replacement	Special equipment
811	Engine	2011	2	Northwood	2037	Foam System
821	Engine	1988	25	Northwood	2015	
851	Rescue/Brush Unit	2008	5	Northwood	2028	Water tank & pump for grass fires
812	Engine	2007	6	Eastwood	2032	
842	Platform Ladder	2007	6	Eastwood	2037	Ladder Truck
852	Rescue	2007	6	Eastwood	2022	
813	Engine	1988	25	Lakewood	2014	
814	Engine	1998	15	Westwood	2023	Vehicle Extrication
844	Platform Ladder	2009	4	Westwood	2039	Ladder Truck
854	Rescue	2007	6	Westwood	2022	
855	Fire Marshal	2008	5	Township	2013	
856	Maintenance	2009	4	Township	2015	Snow plow
890	Fire Chief	2010	3	Township	2016	



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Equipment inspection, testing and maintenance

The annual fire department equipment inspection, testing and maintenance are an important function on both the liability and safety sides of our operation. While much of the inspection, testing and maintenance work is done by our trained and certified fire department personnel, some of the work must be done by contracting to an outside service provider.

The following list describes our larger inspection, testing and maintenance projects that must be performed and documented on an annual basis.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) – 50 units were inspected and flow tested with only minor repairs needed. Cost: \$3,900

Hydrostatic testing of SCBA cylinders – 15 Oxygen cylinders were visually inspected and hydrostatically tested. Cost: \$250

Ground ladder testing – All ground ladders carried on fire apparatus were visually inspected and weight tested with only minor repairs needed. Cost: \$1,600

Ladder truck inspection and testing – Both ladder trucks were visually inspected, and functionally tested. Cost of inspection: \$2,400

Fire hose testing – Was completed by our fire department maintenance personnel with the help of our paid on-call firefighters. Over 12,500 feet of fire hose was visually inspected and pressure tested, with 400 feet of hose taken out of service after failing the testing sequence.

Breathing air compressor – A visual inspection was made of the breathing air compressor system. Quarterly air samples were taken and sent in for analysis. All test samples passed required quality standards. Cost: \$870

Fire extinguisher inspections (facility and vehicle) – Visual inspection and annual certification were completed on all fire department facility and vehicle mounted fire extinguishers with only a few minor repairs needed. Cost: \$650

Fire protective coat and pant inspection/maintenance – When our fire protective clothing develops rips, tears, signs of wear or holes, it must be sent to a certified company for inspection and repair. In 2013, 15 Fire protective coats and 14 fire protective pants were sent in for inspection and maintenance, reducing the amount of fire protective clothing that needed to be replaced. Cost: \$1,995



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Equipment inspection, testing and maintenance (continued)

Tornado siren inspection/maintenance –The fire department maintains six remote activated tornado sirens located throughout Kalamazoo Township. The annual maintenance consists of a visual inspection, testing of electrical circuits and general maintenance and upkeep on the units. Cost: \$2,500

Capital Purchases

Separate from our operational budget, our capital improvement budget helps us maintain our facilities and provide for equipment purchases that enhance our emergency response capability.

Thru continued collaborative efforts with adjoining municipality emergency responders, we make every attempt to not duplicate special equipment and services between organizations. This process has reduced our overall equipment purchase and maintenance costs.

Listed below are some of the capital projects completed in 2013

- Replace 47 sections of hose (50' in length each)	\$5,565
- Replace 20 sets of fire protective coats, pants, boots and gloves	\$39,927
- Rebuild/repair thermal imaging camera	\$800
- Sutphen ladder truck payment - Payment 5 of 5 (Unit 844)	\$102,879
- Pierce fire engine payment - Payment 3 of 3 (Unit 811)	\$62,125
- Replace 5 gas powered ventilation fans	\$10,200
- Replace 5 gas powered ventilation saws	\$7,200
- Replace heat boiler at Station 1	\$9,500
- Replace carpet in dayroom and office at Station 4	\$1,569
- Replace community room concrete ramp at Station 4	\$2,000
- Replace 50 VHF tone alert pagers	\$29,000 (See note 1)
- Replace 1 VHF Base radios with dispatch encoders	\$2,130 (See note 2)
- Replace 12 VHF portable radios	\$13,160 (See note 3)
- Replace Community room and exterior lights at Station 1	\$7,370 (See note 4)

Notes:

- 1 -Federal Emergency Management Agency Fire Act Grant paid \$20,000 of this cost.
- 2 - Federal Emergency Management Agency Fire Act Grant paid \$1,700 of this cost.
- 3 - Federal Emergency Management Agency Fire Act Grant paid \$9,500 of this cost.
- 4 - Consumers Energy Rebate refunded \$2,650 of this cost.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement

	Inspections	Inspection Follow Up's	Citations	Fire/EMS Calls	Investigations	Investigation Follow Up's	Public Education Hours	Court Hours	Burn Complaints
January	32	4	14	8	1	0	0	2	0
February	24	7	10	8	2	0	0	0	0
March	23	9	10	5	2	0	0	0	1
April	19	4	8	6	1	0	4	0	5
May	54	15	11	9	2	0	2	1	6
June	57	19	8	9	3	0	0	1	4
July	27	15	8	6	2	0	0	1	6
August	20	9	6	9	1	0	0	1	0
September	41	14	28	8	3	1	0	1	4
October	29	4	15	4	4	0	0	1	6
November	27	12	14	5	2	0	0	1	2
December	15	17	10	5	3	0	0	2	0
Totals	368	129	142	82	26	1	6	11	34

Inspections consist of the physical inspection of commercial occupancies within the Township of Kalamazoo to enforce Fire Codes. The length of time spent on these inspections can vary widely depending on the size and hazards of the occupancy.

Citations are issued as an enforcement tool to ensure compliance with Fire Codes.

Fire/EMS Calls are responses by the Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement division to emergencies when they are in the area during the time of dispatch, thus providing more rapid response to active emergencies.

Investigations are conducted on most fires, and all loss fires, in an attempt to determine cause and origin. Time spent on these investigations also varies widely depending on the complexity of the investigation.

Public Education is time spent in the local schools teaching fire prevention to students throughout the community.

Court Hours are hours spent appearing in court for enforcement of citations, as a witness in arson prosecutions, and anytime subpoenaed as an expert witness.

Burn Complaints are responses to complaints about citizens not burning within the rules outlined in the Kalamazoo Township Burning Ordinance.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Fire Prevention (continued)

In the summer of 2013 the department completed a two year project which consisted of marking nearly 1,000 fire hydrants in the Township of Kalamazoo. Signs were placed approximately 4-6 feet off the ground near each hydrant. These signs were provided by the City of Kalamazoo water department and installed by both full-time and paid-on-call members of the Township of Kalamazoo Fire Department. The purpose of these signs is to aid responders in rapidly identifying and locating the closest fire hydrant to the fire scene. An added benefit is being able to locate hydrants after they are buried with heavy snow, which has been extremely important this winter as you can see below!





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Training

There are three major categories of training within the Department. They are initial employment training, department wide training and outside training. All training hours are paid at the current training rate approved by the Township Board.

Initial employment training consists of a 277 hour training academy which covers Firefighting Basics, Hazardous Material Responses, and the Incident Command System. New employees must also obtain their MI EMS license as a Medical First Responder. In 2013 the Department hired 7 new paid on-call employees.

Department wide training consists of a 3 hour scheduled training every Tuesday in which there is a morning session and evening session to allow our paid on-call personnel to attend the one session that does not conflict with their full-time jobs. Training varies every week and covers all areas of the expected job functions. In 2013, our firefighters spent 3,066 hours performing proficiency training within our department.

Outside training consists of any training in the region in which an employee attends with the approval of the Department. Normally, if an employee receives outside training, all travel, tuition, per diem, lodging, meals and incidentals are covered by the employee. In 2013, our firefighters spent 840 hours receiving advanced training outside of the department training program.



*Pictured above is the Kalamazoo Regional Training Tower where department wide training is held several times throughout the year.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Assistance to Firefighter's Grant

In 2013, the Township of Kalamazoo received a Federal Emergency Management Administration Assistance to Firefighters Grant to implement a Firefighter Health and Wellness program. The total cost of this project was \$61,750, which required an investment of \$6,175 from the Township Fire Department. This grant allowed us to provide physicals for every emergency response employee in the department, offer flu shots to all emergency response employees, implemented an Employee Assistance Program and created a Wellness/Fitness room located at Station 1 for all employees to use.





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Inter-Governmental Cooperation

Kalamazoo County Hazardous Materials Response Team

The Kalamazoo County Hazardous Materials Response Team (KCHMRT) is made up of various personnel from numerous Fire Departments within Kalamazoo County. Their major goal is to provide a level of service that no municipality could alone provide to its residents without a substantial financial commitment.

In 2012 there were four team members and one executive board member from the Township of Kalamazoo on the KCHMRT as outlined below:

- Fire Chief Dave Obreiter – Executive Board Member
- Captain Todd Martin – Team Member
- Firefighter Dave Weal – Team Member
- Firefighter Derek Bucknell – Team Member
- Firefighter Chris Weidemann – Team Member



These members have additional training above and beyond the requirements of the Fire Department which take place once a month with the rest of the KCHMRT.

Kalamazoo County Fire Investigator Response Team

The Kalamazoo County Fire Investigator Response Team (KCFIRT) is a group of investigators throughout Kalamazoo County that through their combined efforts and schedules allow continuous availability of investigators to respond immediately upon request following a fire in order to determine the cause and origin. Township of Kalamazoo Fire Marshal Todd Kowalski is a Senior Fire Investigator with KCFIRT.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Appendix

Township of Kalamazoo Fire Dept. 2013 Years of service

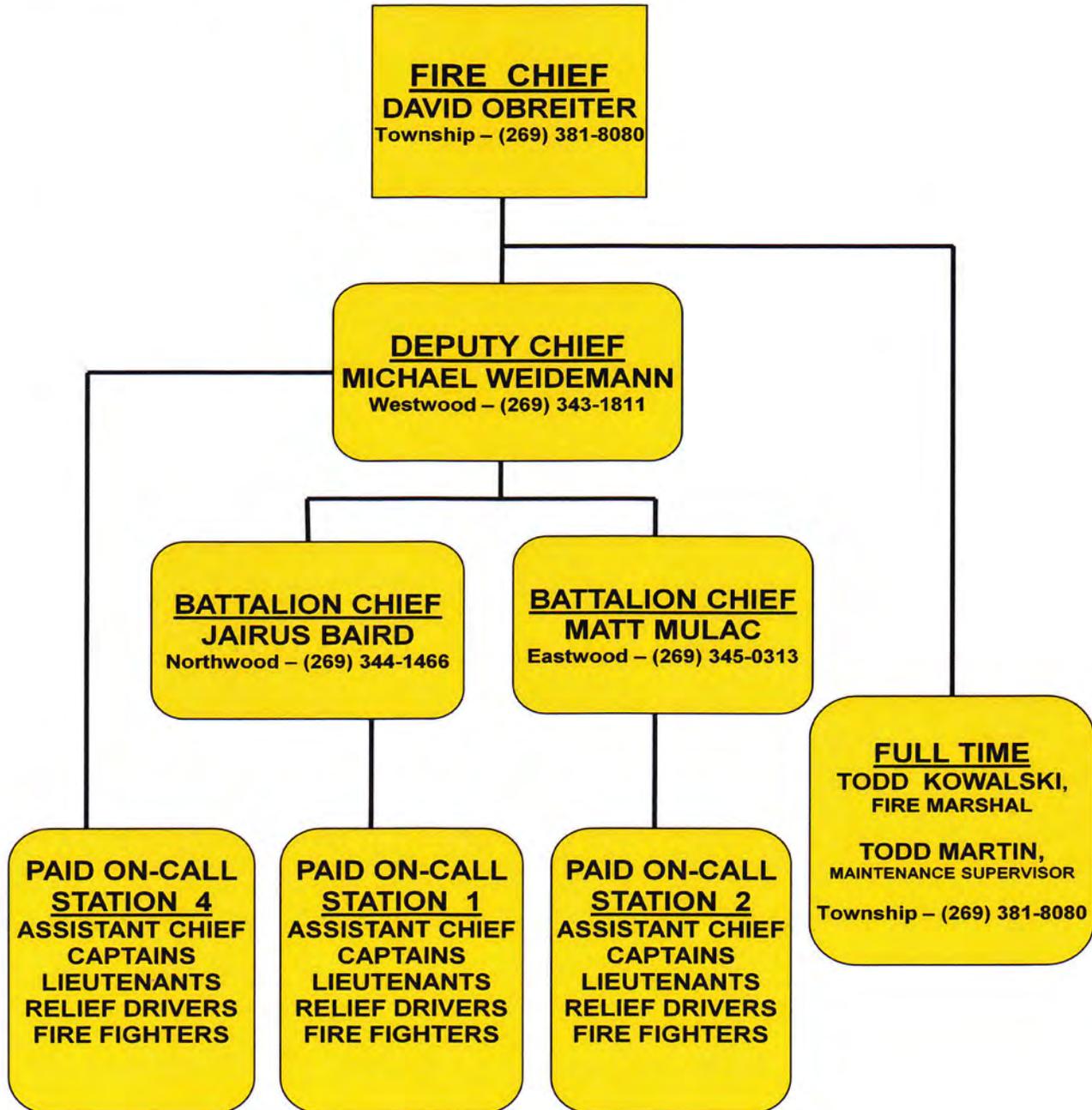
Rank	Name	Years	Rank	Name	Years
LT.	JAMES, TIM	37	FF	VANORDER, JUSTIN	7
CAPT.	THOMPSON, RANDY	26	LT.	BAKER, CHAD	7
D.C.	WEIDEMANN, MIKE	29	B.C.	BAIRD, JAIRUS	5
A.C.	HOEKSTRA, DAVID	28	FF	RODER, JESSE	5
FF	WARNICKE, MARK	27	FF	WEIDEMANN, CHRIS	5
FF	VANORDER, JOE	25	FF	GALLAGHER, SHAWN	4
CHIEF	OBREITER, DAVID	24	FF	BAAS, THOMAS	3
CAPT.	KOWALSKI, TODD	23	FF	BOWERS, NICK	2
FF	LOEDEMANN, JAMES	22	FF	CURLEY, PHILLIP	2
A.C.	DUNFIELD, TODD	21	FF	MILES, ALVIN	2
CAPT.	MARTIN, TODD	20	FF	PLAYFORD, LOUIS	2
CAPT.	LANDREVILLE, JOE	19	FF	SUSZEK, TYLER	2
B.C.	MULAC, MATT	16	FF	TAZELAAR, GEORGE	2
LT.	SUTTON, TOM	16	FF	TENBRINK, BRIAN	2
FF	WEIDEMANN, T	16	FF	GARRETT, MARKIKOE	2
FF	VARDA, JAMES	16	FF	VIGEN, AJ	2
FF	STIRN, PETER J	15	FF	BALLOCK, DANIEL	1
FF	VANDERBERG, TIM	13	FF	CONROE, ZACHARY	1
CAPT.	WHEATLEY, BRUCE	12	FF	ROTGERS, MICHAEL	1
FF	TROTT, RICK	10	FF	STIRN, LORI	1
FF	WEAL, DAVID	10	FF	KOTECKI, JUSTIN	1
FF	MERCHANT, DAN	9	FF	BAIRD, RACHEL	NEW
FF	BUCKNELL, DEREK	9	FF	HUELL, ELBERT JR.	NEW
FF	HUBBART, MICHAEL	9	FF	FULLER, GARRETT	NEW
FF	COX, TROY	8	FF	MARTENSEN, ALLEN	NEW
FF	GARNAAT, AL	8	FF	VANDERBERG, ANDY	NEW
FF	PODOLSKY, GABRIEL	7	FF	LOOMAN, SHEILA	NEW
FF	SMITH, KENT	7	FF	MORRISON, BRANDON	NEW



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Appendix (continued)

Fire Department Organizational Chart





2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Appendix (continued)

2013 Fire Department Awards

The following awards were presented in 2013, for the year of 2012, to the members of the Township of Kalamazoo Fire Department as follows:

Firefighter of the Year (2012)

The Fire Fighter of the Year award is presented to a member of the fire department that has been selected from nominations by their peers. The recipient of this award is selected based on their overall outstanding performance as a fire fighter, performance above and beyond that normally expected of a fire fighter, community service and an overall commitment to improving the fire service.

-Awarded to Lieutenant Chad Baker

Citation for Lifesaving

The Citation for Lifesaving is awarded for the saving of a life through various actions, such as the direct application of first aid. The following members were awarded the Citation for Lifesaving for responses during 2013.

Baird, Jairus	1
Bowers, Nick	1
Carsten, Aaron	1
Conroe, Zachary	1
Cox, Troy	2
Curley, Phil	1
Garnaat, Al	2
Garrett, Mark	1
Hoekstra, Dave	1
Hubartt, Mike	1
Jessup, Matt	1
Kowalski, Todd	2

Landreville, Joe	2
Martin, Todd	2
Miles, Alvin	1
Obreiter, Dave	3
Perigo, Jeff	1
Playford, Louis	1
Podolsky, Gabriel	1
Roder, Jesse	1
Rotgers, Mike	1
Stirn, Lori	1
Stirn, Pete	1
Suszek, Tyler	1

Sutton, Tom	1
Tazelaar, George	1
Tenbrink, Brian	1
Trott, Rick	2
Varda, Jim	1
Vigen, Andrew	1
Warnicke, Mark	2
Weal, Dave	1
Weidemann, Chris	1
Weidemann, Teresa	1
Wheatley, Bruce	1

* The number after the name indicates the number of awards that they received.